

State of North Carolina Office of the Governor

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Date: December 7, 2006 Phone: 919/733-5612

GOV. EASLEY ANNOUNCES 100 JOBS FOR VANCE COUNTY One North Carolina Fund Grant Helps Florida Marine Tanks Inc. Open in Henderson

RALEIGH – Gov. Mike Easley today announced that Florida Marine Tanks Inc. will open a plant in Vance County, creating 100 jobs and investing \$2 million during the next three years. The announcement was made possible in part by a \$50,000 One North Carolina Fund grant.

"The decision by Florida Marine Tanks to open a plant in Vance County means 100 new jobs for the people in that area," Easley said. "This announcement is further proof of North Carolina's commitment to workforce development and education that keeps the state attractive to growing businesses."

Florida Marine Tanks Inc. is a manufacturer of fuel, water and holding tanks for the boating industry. The company, headquartered in Miami, with a manufacturing site in Dexter, Mo., will purchase two buildings in the Henderson-Vance Industrial Park in Henderson for the manufacture of its products. There currently are more than 35,000 workers employed in the state's boat building and boating services industries. While wages will vary by job function, the average weekly wage of the jobs will be \$455 plus benefits.

"A North Carolina facility will enable us to better serve the marine industry," said Rosemarie Fiori, president of Florida Marine Tanks Inc. "We thank the state and Vance County for their support."

The One North Carolina Fund assists the state in industry recruitment and expansion by providing financial assistance through local governments to attract business projects that will stimulate economic activity and create new jobs in the state. One North Carolina Fund grants require and are contingent upon a local match. Through the use of this Fund, more than 20,000 jobs and \$3 billion in investment have been created since 2001.

Other partners who helped make this announcement possible include the N.C. Department of Commerce, Vance County Economic Development Commission, Vance County Board of Commissioners, Progress Energy, Vance Granville Community College and the Small Business Technology Development Center's Boating Industry Services.

For more information about the company and employment opportunities, visit www.floridamarinetanks.com.

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